(c) During Prime Minister's visit to the US in May 1994, President Clinton and Prime Minister called for a new partnership between India and the United States and agreed that democracy, respect for human rights and economic liberalization provide the best foundation for global stability and prosperity in the post-Cold War era. They promised to cooperate in the search for solutions to global challenges posed by weapons of mass destruction, international terrorism, narcotics trafficking etc. High-level visits have taken place to expand the pace and scope of high-level exchanges on the full range of political, economic, commercial, scientific, technological and social issues.

Compensation for Violation of Human Rights in India

3579. SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Amnesty International has focussed on and brought to light the issue of human rights violations in India at the Geneva Meeting of the UN Human Rights Commission;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what steps Government intend to take to prevent such violations of human rights and to compensate victims of such violations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA): (a) to (c) Amnesty International has made baseless allegations against India in reports published on the eve of the 51st session of the UN Commission on Human Rights in Geneva. Amnesty has also criticised other countries, apart from India, including Indonesia and Pakistan, Government has responded to Amnesty International's reports and apprised member-States of the United Nations of the facts. The Government is committed to preventing any violations of human rights.

Land ceded by Nepal to the East India Company

3580. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN :
SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether lands ceded by Nepal to the East India Company in 1815, comprising parts of Darjeeling district and Tarai areas of North Bihar and North Utter Pradesh, have been incorporated and assimilated into the Indian Union and whether necessary schedules to the Constitution have been amended; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA): (a) and (b) The lands ceded by Nepal to the East India Company in 1815 under the Treaty of Segouli were ceded in perpetuity. No incorporation or amendment to the Constitution of India is necessary as these lands became irrevocable parts of India at the time of Independence.

Promotion of the concept of an independent Kashmir by a third country

3581. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have admitted that a third party country has been promoting the concept of an independent Kashmir throughout the world for the last so many years;

(b) whether it is a fact that Government have finalised a number of agreements with that third party country recently;

(c) whether the concept of independent Kashmir was given due consideration while finalising these agreements; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?